

Appl. No. 09/686,502
Amdt. Dated June 9, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 10, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P13438-US2
EUS/J/P/05-3131

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of Claim [[1]] 11, further comprising:
a point-to-multipoint functional entity coupled to said message distributor unit.
3. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of Claim [[1]] 11, wherein the base station system comprises an IP-based base station system.
4. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of Claim [[1]] 11, wherein said signalling functional unit comprises a BVC signalling functional unit.
5. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of Claim [[1]] 11, wherein said network service entity comprises a PCU.
6. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of Claim [[1]] 11, wherein said packet information comprises GPRS data.
7. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of Claim [[1]] 11, wherein said packet information comprises EDGE GPRS data.
8. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of Claim [[1]] 11, wherein said connection interface comprises a Gb interface.

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9. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of Claim [[1]] 11, wherein said at least one point-to-point functional unit includes an RLC/MAC control unit.

10. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of Claim [[1]] 11, wherein said at least one point-to-point functional unit is coupled to a radio air interface.

11. (Currently Amended) A network service entity for a base station system, comprising:

at least one point-to-point functional unit;

a signalling function unit; and

a message distributor unit, said message distributor unit coupled to said at least one point-to-point functional unit, said signalling function unit, and a connection interface, said message distributor unit operable to

distribute packet information to or from said connection interface and The network service entity of Claim 1, wherein said message distributor unit is operable to route BSS GPRS Protocol Virtual Connections Identifier (BVCI) based (BVCI-based BSS GPRS Protocol (BSSGP) BSSGP packets.

12. (Currently Amended) The network service entity of claim 11 [[1]], wherein said message distributor unit is operable to build a BVCI-to-IP address/port relationship table using a plug 'n play application.

13-38. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) A node gateway for a base station system, comprising:

at least one point-to-point functional unit;

a signaling function unit; and

Appl. No. 09/686,502
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Attorney Docket No. P13438-US2
EUS/J/P/05-3131

a message distributor unit coupled to a connection interface, ~~and a point-to-multipoint functional unit and said signaling function unit~~, said message distributor unit operable to distribute packet information to a plurality of network units and to route BVCI-based BSSGP packets via said connection interface, ~~and~~
~~a network service management functional unit.~~

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 48 [[41]], wherein the base station system comprises an IP-based base station system.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 48 [[41]], wherein said signalling information comprises BVC signalling information.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 48 [[41]], wherein said network service functions reside in a PCU.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 48 [[41]], wherein said data comprises GPRS packet data.

46. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 48 [[41]], wherein said data comprises EDGE GPRS data.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 48 [[41]], wherein said connection interface comprises a Gb interface.

48. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling network service functions in a base station system, comprising the steps of:
controlling a connection for conveying data between at least two endpoints in said base station system;

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Attorney Docket No. P13438-US2
EUS/J/P/05-3131

controlling a connection for conveying said data between at least a third endpoint and said at least two endpoints in said base station system;

controlling at least one connection for conveying signalling information in said base station system; and

distributing said data to or from a connection interface including ~~The method of Claim 41, wherein the step of distributing said data to or from a connection interface comprises routing BVCI-based BSSGP packets to or from a Gb interface.~~

49. (New) The method of claim 48, further comprising the step of using a plug 'n play application to build a BVCI-to-IP address/port relationship table.

50. (New) The node of claim 40, the message distribution unit further operable to build a BVCI-to-IP address/port relationship table using a plug 'n play application.